#9 Recon. F
Laticia 2700
10-19-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:		Atty. Docket No.:	003797.87569
William H. VONG et al.			
Serial No.:	09/556,982	Group Art Unit:	2674
Filed:	April 24, 2000	Examiner:	A. Abdulselam
For:	AUXILIARY DISPLAY UNIT FOR A COMPUTER SYSTEM	Confirmation No.:	6962

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The final office action of July 16, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-24, 26, 28-32, and 36-55 remain pending.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-24, 26, 28-32, and 36-55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 6,191,758 (Sang-jin Lee) in view of U.S. patent no. 5,999,169 (Bobby Lee). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 15-19, and 36-46

The action apparently alleges that Sang-jin Lee shows all the features of the invention of independent claims 1 and 36, but for an input user interface dedicated to the auxiliary display unit and configured to receive inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on the display. To overcome this deficiency, the action relies on Bobby Lee. Specifically, the action contends that Bobby Lee shows "first and second mechanisms (8 10) corresponding to mouse surface contact ball and track point device that produce signals to a multiplexer (12)" relying on Fig. 2 and col. 4, ll. 20-28. Even assuming, but not admitting, that the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee is proper, the combination does not result in the invention of independent claims 1 and 36.

Independent claims 1 and 36 each call for, among other features, an auxiliary display unit including an input user interface dedicated to the auxiliary display unit and configured to receive

inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on the display.

Admittedly, Bobby Lee shows two separate input mechanisms that are configurable by the user. Through a user interface as shown in Fig. 3 of Bobby Lee, the user selects a desired function(s) to be assigned to a particular input mechanism. Thus, if one skilled in the art combined Sang-jin Lee with Bobby Lee, the resulting computer system structure would include separate input mechanisms for controlling separate functions in a particular application regardless of whether the application, such as a browser, was active in the main display unit or the auxiliary display unit where one input mechanism might control web scrolling and a second input mechanism might control two-dimensional scrolling. Hence, no suggestion results from the combination that the auxiliary display unit includes an input user interface dedicated to the auxiliary display unit. For at least this reason, independent claims 1 and 36 are patentably distinct from the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee.

Claims 2, 3, 5-11, 15-19 and 37-46, which ultimately depend from claim 1, are considered allowable for the same reasons set forth above and further in view of the additional novel features recited therein. For example, the applied art does not provide a teaching or suggestion of the auxiliary display unit being physically remote from the main display unit as recited in independent claim 36 and claims 43 and 44, which ultimately depend from claim 1. Also, claim 44 further recites that only one of the auxiliary display unit and the main display unit can be seen by a single user at a single moment in time due to the physical proximity of the main display unit and the auxiliary display unit.

In addition, claim 7 calls for the display of the auxiliary display unit being larger than the display of the main display unit, a feature that is not taught or suggested by the applied art. The action relies on Fig. 1, elements 10 and 12 of Sang-jin Lee to show this feature. However, inspection of Fig. 1 of Sang-jin Lee reveals that the display of the main display unit is much larger than the display of the auxiliary display unit. Also, the applied art lacks 1) a teaching of the input user interface being configured to receive user authorization information from a user, 2) the user authorization information being processed to determine whether the user is authorized to

change a variable associated with the second application as recited in claim 38 and the input user interface being configured to receive user authorization information from a user, and 3) the user authorization information being processed to determine a level of interaction with the second application for which the user is authorized as recited in claim 39. To show these features, the action points to col. 5, ll. 11-14 and Fig. 2 of Sang-jin Lee and indicates that a keyboard controller along with a serial interface device communicates with an external interface device. However, applicants see no correlation between these portions of Sang-jin Lee or any other portions of Sang-jin Lee or Bobby Lee, which suggest the features recited in claims 38 and 39.

Further, the combination of the applied art does not result in the claim 18 invention wherein the personal computer is configured to determine whether a second auxiliary display unit has sufficient display space available to receive first or second information. To show this feature, the action relies on step 42 "determining selection information of display device" of Fig. 4 of Sang-jin Lee. Review of the specification at col. 5, ll. 44-48 reveals that when an application program is executed, at step 42, "it is determined which display device is selected *according to the display selection information of the application program or display selection information input by the user*." (Emphasis added). Nowhere does Sang-jin Lee teach or suggest that the personal computer determines whether a second auxiliary display unit has sufficient display space available to receive first or second information as recited in claim 18.

Claim 45 calls for the auxiliary display unit being portable and claim 46, which depends from claim 45, further calls for the auxiliary display unit being physically attachable to a user. To show these features, the action again relies on Fig. 1 and main display device 10 and auxiliary display device 12 of Sang-jin Lee. Yet, neither Fig. 1 nor the disclosure of Sang-jin Lee provides any teaching or suggestion of these features.

Even assuming, but not admitting, that the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee results in the claimed invention, Applicants submit that the action has failed to identify any suggestion, incentive or motivation to combine the applied art at the time of the invention. In explaining that one skilled in the art would have modified Sang-jin Lee to include the input devices of Bobby Lee, the action merely asserts that "one would have been motivated in view of

the suggestion in Bobby Lee that the two mechanisms (8 10) provide the additional input user interface." However, the action's reason for combining the references to obtain the claimed invention is nothing more than a textbook example of impermissible hindsight. Namely, the action, being aware of the claimed invention, merely hunted through the prior art to find the claimed features and combined them absent any motivation or suggestion to make such a combination. Just because Bobby Lee discloses two mechanisms providing an additional input user interface does not mean that one would have been motivated to modify Sang-jin Lee in the manner proposed in the action to arrive at the claimed invention. In light of the foregoing, the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee is improper and therefore does not render the claimed invention obvious.

Claims 20-24 and 26

Independent claim 20 is directed to a method of controlling the display of information associated with an active application in a computer system having a host computer, and a first display unit and second display unit coupled to the host computer. The claim 20 method includes determining whether the second display unit has available capacity to display information associated with the application, sending the information associated with the application to the second display unit for display when the second display unit has available capacity, and sending the information associated with the application to said first display unit for display when the second display unit has no available capacity to display the information.

Applicants submit that the action's proposed combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee, even if proper, fails to result in the claim 20 feature of determining whether a display unit has *available capacity* to display information associated with an application. Sang-jin Lee provides no such teaching. Indeed, Sang-jin Lee merely describes making a determination regarding "which display device is selected according to the display selection information of the application program or display selection information input by the user." Col. 5, ll. 45-48. Bobby Lee is totally silent with respect to determining whether a display unit has available capacity to display information as recited in claim 20.

Thus, for at least this reason, the proposed combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee does not render obvious the invention of independent claim 20 and claims 21-24 and 26, which depend therefrom. Moreover, as asserted above, one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee in the manner proposed.

Claims 28-32 and 55

Independent claim 28 is directed to a method for use in a computer system having a host computer, a main display unit coupled to the host computer, and an auxiliary display unit coupled to the host computer, the auxiliary display unit including a display and an input user interface. The method includes, among other features, displaying a graphical user interface associated with an application on the display of the auxiliary display unit, receiving an input from a user through the input user interface of the auxiliary display unit, the input requesting second information associated with the application, and displaying the second information on the auxiliary display unit. As discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 36, the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee neither teaches nor suggests an auxiliary display including an input user interface. Thus, it follows that the proposed combination lacks a teaching of receiving an input from a user through the input user interface of the auxiliary display unit, the input requesting second information associated with the application as recited in claim 28. For at least this reason, claim 28 and claims 29-32, which ultimately depend from claim 28, are considered patentably distinct from the applied art.

Regarding claim 55, since the applied combination does not teach or suggest an auxiliary display including an input user interface, it follows that the combination does not suggest a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions including receiving input through the input user interface of the auxiliary display unit for controlling aspects of a second active application represented in the graphical user interface and requesting second information associated with the application as claimed.

In addition, as set forth above, one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee in the manner proposed to obtain the claimed invention.

Claims 47-53

Independent claim 47 calls for, among other features, a personal computer, an auxiliary display unit coupled to the personal computer and including a processing unit for receiving and processing instructions received from the personal computer and a modem configured to couple the auxiliary display unit to an external network responsive to instructions received from the personal computer or the processing unit, without connecting to the external network through the personal computer.

The action alleges that the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee results in the invention of claim 47. Apparently, to show the auxiliary display unit including a processing unit and modem as claimed, the action relies on Sang-jin Lee. Sang-jin Lee (Fig. 2) shows a main display device 22, an auxiliary display device 24, and a computer body 20 having a CPU 202, an auxiliary display controller 218 and a serial interface portion 222, the serial interface portion 222 connected to an external RS232C device. In contrast to Sang-jin Lee however, the claim 47 personal computer system includes a personal computer, a main display unit and an auxiliary display unit, the *auxiliary display unit* including a processing unit and a modem. Nowhere in Sang-jin Lee is there any suggestion that the auxiliary display device 24 includes a processing unit and a modem as called for in claim 47. Moreover, the external RS232C device is directly connected to the computer body 20 and not the auxiliary display device 24. In stark contrast, in claim 47 the modem couples the auxiliary display unit to the external network without connecting to the external network through the personal computer. Bobby Lee is wholly devoid of any teaching or suggestion to remedy these defects of Sang-jin Lee.

For at least these reasons, the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee does not result in the claim 47 invention or the invention of claims 48-53, which ultimately depend from claim 47. The dependent claims call for other advantageous features that are neither taught nor suggested by the applied art. For example, claim 51 recites that the personal computer and the auxiliary display unit are separately addressable by the external network and claim 52 recites that the personal computer and the auxiliary display unit can independently and contemporaneously

communicate over the external network or different external networks without sharing the same bandwidth.

In addition, as set forth above, one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee in the manner proposed to obtain the claimed invention.

Claim 54

To show the claim 54 invention, the action relies on the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee. Applicants are unclear as to what feature of claim 54 the action alleges can be found in Bobby Lee. In any event, claim 54 calls for an auxiliary display unit configured to receive and display information associated with a task bar or system tray of an operating system running on a host computer which is neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee. Apparently, the action relies on Sang-jin Lee to show this feature. Yet Sang-jin Lee merely describes that main application programs may be displayed on the main display device 10 and auxiliary application programs thereof may displayed on the auxiliary display device 12. However, an auxiliary display device displaying an auxiliary application program does not provide a teaching or suggestion of an auxiliary display device displaying information associated with a task or system of an operating system running on a host computer as recited in claim 54. Bobby Lee fails to overcome this deficiency. Hence claim 54 is patentably distinct from the combination of Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee. In addition, as set forth above, one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine Sang-jin Lee and Bobby Lee in the manner proposed to obtain the claimed invention.

CONCLUSION

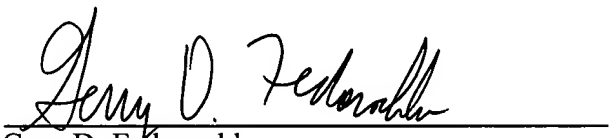
All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: October 15, 2002

By: 

Gary D. Fedorochko
Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
(202) 508-9100

GDF:lab